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Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

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Many a slip between pipeline and connection

5 years ago hundreds of HMT ward residents applied for piped gas services, but despite pleas, complaints, they have not yet received it

Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite enduring road-diggings and traffic congestion for laying Piped Natural Gas lines a year ago, residents of the HMT ward still don't have PNG services. According to GAIL officials, work has been pending as permission has not yet been given for road-cutting.

Roughly five years ago, hundreds of residents had applied for pipeline gas services. Though pipelines extending from the homes have been laid, they have not been connected to the gas pipeline. Residents in these homes continue to use gas cylinders despite having the facility and effortless gas usage remains a dream. Residents complain that GAIL has been dragging its feet on this project and GAIL authorities have passed the buck on to BBMP.

It's been five years since PNG pipes started being laid in several parts of the city

Bangalore Mirror
Great east-west gas connection divide
People from places like HMT ward have been requesting PNG connections
BM had reported about how some areas had received PNG connection and some hadn't

Satish Menon of Aquilla apartments and president of the Peenya and Kengeri Cluster of the Bangalore Apartment Federation (BAF) said, "We had applied for GAIL gas in 2017 and deposits were made as well. Soon after, the internal pipelines and meters were laid. It was implemented in several apartment complexes in the area. But GAIL authorities have been complaining about not receiving permission from BBMP. We have also been asking them to extend the line from a property where such a line has been laid. Recently, the Yeshwanthpur line was laid and it will be easier to implement."

Another apartment complex Jal Vayu Heights in Peenya is also facing the same issue. "We have been facing issues for four years now and we are considering asking for a refund. Each flat gave Rs 3,000-4,000 and there are 320 flats here. One year back, we even asked BBMP to help us but it was to no avail. We are helpless with this project despite all our efforts. The pipelines have been laid, tested and completed till the last minute. GAIL needs permission to lay some last few km from BBMP but BBMP has been refusing to give permission," said Gp Capt Kasinath Bhat, president of the apartment complex.

According to cluster leader of BAF(Dasarahalli) and a resident of Vaishnavi Rathnam apartment, Srinidhi Swaminathan, during the laying of pipelines, the roads were dug up and they have met the requirements to leave the GAIL gas pipeline unconcealed. "GAIL has not delivered their promise of gas services for the past few years and they are promising other apartments that services will be available. Some apartment complexes have been lucky and some are unlucky. We have sent a lot of petitions,

> **"Each flat gave Rs 3,000-4,000 and there are 320 flats here. One year back, we even asked BBMP to help us but it was to no avail** –HMT ward resident

letters and requests to the Chief minister's office, Prime Minister's office and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas."

GAIL officials told BM that the services have been delayed due to BBMP denying permission to lay the external pipelines. "We have laid the internal pipelines, the external pipelines are still pending due to BBMP not giving clearance. Now with the monsoon, the clearance from BBMP will be further delayed. We have laid around 3 km and 17 km is pending in the HMT ward. BBMP has been constantly denying permission for road-cutting to lay a pipeline," said the GAIL official.

According to BBMP, permission was delayed due to monsoons."During monsoons, we were asked not to give permission for road-cutting and defer until the monsoon period gets over," said BBMP AEE HMT ward.

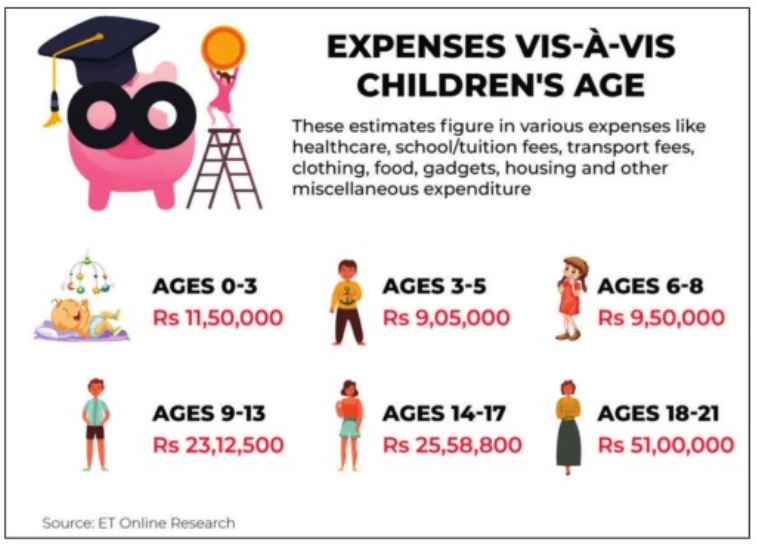
Raising a child: From age 3-17, school costs ₹30L

Parents' budget is affected as tuition, transportation, examination fees keep spiking

Parents always knew raising a child in India – with its broken model of education – is expensive, and turning more so. Actual numbers support this belief. As per ET Online research, the overall expenditure of schooling a child in India in a private school from age 3 to age 17 is a whopping Rs 30 lakh.

Expenses are not only high, but they are also unpredictable, says Mayuri Dhope, when asked how she plans for her daughter's school fees. While Pune-based Mayuri and Vinay have planned for their 8-year-old daughter's education till she turns 25, their plans are fluid and can deal with upticks.

EduFund says education costs have climbed by around 10-12% in India between 2012-20. Not only the tuition fee but transportation fees and examination fees are also hiked periodically which affects parents' overall budget.



The growing years

With enrolling a child into a school comes the expense of admission fees, which is a one-time hit. Most schools across tier-I cities charge an admission fee, anything between Rs 25,000 and Rs 75,000. Some schools offer discounts to parents if a sibling is simultaneously enrolled.

These discounts range from Rs 10,000-20,000. Preschooling includes nursery and kindergarten. The average tuition fee here in the majority of schools across tier-I and II cities can range between Rs 60,000-Rs 1.5 lakh per year, depending on the brand of the school.

> **Tuition fee for primary school per year ranges between Rs 1.25-1.75 lakh. For primary education, it is about Rs 5.50 lakh**

Where both the parents are employed, children are enrolled in daycare centres. As per an ET Online analysis, certain professional daycare centres in metro cities charge up to Rs 5,000-8,500 per day. Assuming that parents drop off kids at daycare centres for 5 hours per day, this expense can go up to Rs 2 lakh per year. Tuition fee for primary school per year ranges between Rs 1.25 lakh-1.75 lakh. For primary education, parents can expect to shell out Rs 5.50 lakh. The average yearly fee for middle school is around Rs 1.6 lakh – 1.8 lakh and the overall expenditure here is around Rs 9.5 lakh.

Grade XI onwards, many schools expect parents to pay separately for books, at around Rs 4,000-7,000 per year. The four years of high school can cost Rs 1.8 lakh to Rs 2.2 lakh. It is advisable to factor in around Rs 9 lakh as a whole for high school education. Most schools charge extra for transport at around Rs 1,500-2,500 per month depending on the city. Parents tend to pay Rs 25,000 per year on transport alone and this may change in the future as fuel prices inflate.

Should parents opt to enrol their child in a government school, the price of schooling will be much lesser, at around Rs 15,000-20,000 per annum.

College education

Most middle-class parents now budget for college education, even more expensive than school, from an early age. Some pin their hopes on scholarships in colleges abroad, some on loans.

Elite colleges

Enrolling in a top-rated engineering college, like one of the twenty-three IITs or any other private institution, for a 4-year BTech or a 3-year BSc, costs around Rs 4-20 lakh. Expenses for coaching for entrance exams like JEE, JEE (Main) and other exams range from Rs 30,000 to Rs 5 lakh.

By Anand JC, ET Online

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Hebbal traffic police station is a rundown structure with leaky roof and cracked walls where visitors wait under rusty zinc sheets

STATION LIMITS

Facility functioning from 4 small rooms since 2002

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Enter Hebbal Traffic Police Station: damp walls with gaping cracks and leaky roof covered with time-worn asbestos sheets greet you.

It is absurd to see a traffic police station meant to regulate vehicular movement on important roads, including a portion of the Bengaluru International Airport Road, functioning from four small rooms alongside a railway track near the Hebbal Flyover.

Hebbal traffic police station has been functioning from these four small rooms since 2002, we are told — the police department could not do much since the land belongs to either the Railways or Bangalore Development Authority (BDA).

"When it rains, we manage to cover the asbestos roof of police inspector's room and computer room with tarpaulin — station staff

"I am not sure who is the owner of this land but no development took place at this police station even after two decades. We have to struggle a lot whenever it rains heavily. We do manage to cover the asbestos roof of our police inspector's room and the other room where computers are kept with a tarpaulin," a traffic police personnel said on the condition of anonymity.

The state of the other two rooms, including the assistant sub-inspectors' room, is pathetic. Walls are damp and have developed huge cracks. Visitors have to wait at the verandah covered with rusty and damaged zinc sheets.

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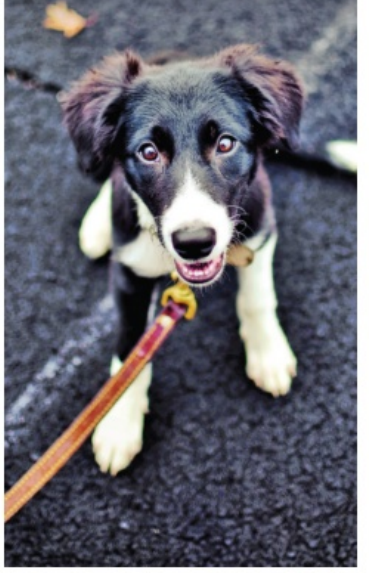
PAWS, PAUSE PLEASE...

Dogs venturing close to street light poles along pavements getting electric shocks



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2 THINGS TO DO

01 Classical notes

Sanjog Bansuri Mahavidyalaya presents a grand musical program Guruvandana 2022. Hindustani vocal performances will be by Sanjog students, accompanied by Nandakishor Mutalik Desai on harmonium, tabla Ensemble by Kiran Godkhindi and students. Flute performances will be by the students of Sanjog Bansuri Mahavidyalaya, accompanied by Roopak Kallurkar on tabla. Program will be concluded by a flute jugalbandi between Dr Pravin Godkhindi and Shadaj Godkhindi, accompanied by Ojas Adhiya on tabla and Patri Satish Kumar on mridangam.
Where: JSS Shivarathreeshwara Auditorium, Jayanagar; When: Aug 20, 3.00 pm

02 Dark Light, live

As part of other performances lined up at Hard Rock Cafe Whitefield, Dark Light is going live playing a tribute to English rock band Pink Floyd. Formed in 2013, the Bengaluru-based five-piece band is known for progressive music elements and ambient psychedelic soundscapes.
Where: Hard Rock Cafe, Whitefield
When: August 20, 7 pm onwards

Govt school kids share joys of smart learning

Two government schools in Mahadevapura have incorporated digital education programme for its children; students are elated, they say

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Teachers can connect the projector with internet through WIFI or phone for better learning

For the 300-odd students of two Government Lower Primary Schools in Mahadevapura, education has become a lot more new-age thanks to the smart classroom facility that has been incorporated recently in the curriculum. The students -- most of them are from economically poor families -- say that their studies are a lot more holistic and fun now.

Under the Share Your Joy (SYJ) programme, this digital education project has been initiated for students in rural areas, primarily for Kannada medium schools. The schools are given a digital projector with a screen and Karnataka State Syllabus from Class 1 to Class 10 is provided. Teachers also can connect the internet to the projectors by using WIFI or phone.

"I am very happy with the smart classroom facility here. It enables us to learn quickly as the digital content includes pictures too," said Nagaveni S, a 5th standard student of Government Lower Primary School, Tubarahalli.

"Our school has 207 students. The smart classroom facility started by Association of 41 Clubs of India is very useful not only to the students but also teachers. We have four teachers and two volunteers who are trained in conducting smart classes," said Govindappa CM, headmaster, Government Lower Primary School, Tubarahalli.

According to Pankaj Singh, President, The Association of 41 Clubs of India, a similar facility would be inaugurated at a government-aided school, Rajajinagar on August 28.

"We are very happy to commence smart classes at the two Government Lower Primary Schools at Nagondanahalli and Tubarahalli. We are planning to provide similar facilities at the government schools for the benefit of Kannada-medium students," said Pankaj Singh.

He said that he came to know about these two schools through Govindappa, headmaster of Government Lower Primary School, Tubarahalli. "I felt very happy during my visit to this school. I found children healthy and receptive. I came to know that some women volunteers provide breakfast for these children," he said.

> **"It helps us learn faster as the digital content includes pictures too"**
> – Nagaveni S, a Class 5 student

Jayasheela D, headmistress, Government Lower Primary School, Nagondanahalli has said that she wanted to thank The Association of 41 Clubs of India, Nagondanahalli Government Lower Primary School for providing a smart classroom facility. "Most of the students are from families that migrated to Bengaluru from rural areas. We have three teachers and one volunteer. All of them are trained in conducting smart classes. Children have shown keen interest to attend these classes," said Jayasheela.

Meanwhile, Damla Mathew, project manager, Share Your Joy, has said that each smart class facility costs Rs 50,000.

"While sharing your joy for the benefit of society unconditionally, you derive satisfaction in the process and there is no reward in the world better than this," he said.

Be e-waste aware

Dispose of your e-waste but safely. VK and BM are organising a special awareness programme on e-waste at Dasarahalli and on Saturday, a Jatha will start from the petrol bunk near Triveni School at 9.30 am and start a procession with different art troupes. BBMP, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, BMRCL, Sogo Synergy E-Waste Management, Peenya Industrial Association, Kuvempu College Mallasandra, RR Group of Institutions, Nisarga PU College, Rotary Jalahalli, Human Rights Protection Committee and various residential associations have partnered in this campaign.
Where: Petrol Bunk near Triveni School, Hesaraghatta Main Road; When: August 20, 9.30 am

VTU rolls out new measures for its staff, students

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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) has asked its college principals to update the faculty list on priority in order to map them. According to VTU registrar (evaluation), the mapping will help the varsity in appointment of paper setters and also for evaluation allotment. The circular adds that before mapping subjects, the faculty must update their experience and qualification etc.

"Subject mapping is to be done for all the course subjects. The faculty mapped must possess a PhD with at least three years of experience after obtaining PhD. The principal has to ensure that mapping of at least five faculty members for the subjects opted by research scholars in their research centre," said the registrar (evaluation).

IPCC

VTU has introduced a new scheme of teaching and examination for post-graduate programs. This Integrated Professional Core Course (IPCC) has integrated the professional theory core course with practicals. The theory part of the IPCC shall be evaluated both by Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE) and Semester-End Examinations (SEE). The practical part will be evaluated by only CIE (no SEE). However, questions from the practical part of IPCC will be included in the SEE question paper as well.

Ability Enhancement Courses

Meanwhile, the VTU has asked students to take ability enhancement courses seriously. The courses under this category are online courses published in advance and approved by the board of studies.

In case a candidate fails to appear for the proctored examination or fails to pass the selected online course, he/she can register and appear for the same course if offered during the next session or register for a new course offered during that session. A pass grade in such a course is mandatory, explained officials.

Skill development

The VTU has asked the students to engage in skill development activities by interacting with industries.

Students should be involved in research/testing/projects to understand their problems and help create creative and innovative methods to solve the problem along with case studies and fieldwork.

Internship

VTU has said that all the students shall have to undergo a mandatory internship of six weeks during the vacation of second and third semester.

"Those who do not take-up/complete the internship shall be failed in the internship course and have to complete the same during the subsequent university examinations," said officials.

Coming back with a bang: Cubbon Park's fountains

Four fountains in park being refurbished at Rs 48 lakh; cycling track, jogger's path also being constructed

| Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

KAUSHIK JN

Workers give a new look to Cubbon Park's fountains

Once upon a time, Cubbon Park was known for its numerous fountains. However, over a period of time, these fountains were either removed or remained as a mere showpiece due to neglect and water shortage. Now, that is set to change as four fountains in Cubbon Park are being refurbished at a cost of Rs 48 lakh.

Horticulture Department's Deputy Director HT Balakrishna said, "The four fountains are located at Bandstand, Gopala Gowda Circle, Wadiyar Circle and inside Queen's Park. Due to cash crunch, the fountains were in a state of neglect and were not in use. So, we requested the Bengaluru Smart City Limited to refurbish these fountains. Heeding our request, the project has been taken up where the cement inside these fountains is being re-laid along while faulty pipes and nozzles are being replaced. I am sure once the fountains are operational, then this will be an added attraction in the park."

> **"The fountain's cement is being re-laid, faulty pipes and nozzles being replaced**
> –HT Balakrishna, Horticulture Department's Deputy Director

He added that the Smart City work inside the park was nearing completion. The Smart City projects were taken up inside the park at a cost of Rs 24 crore in the last 1.5 years. In the first phase, Rs 12 crore was spent on improving footpaths, creating jogging tracks and a lotus pond.

The second phase has seen the rejuvenation of Karaga and dry ponds, lawns and planting of ornamental plants. Officials said that Cubbon Park may wear a new look by next month's end.

A cycle track is also being laid; the cyclists will have a smooth ride around the park without the fear of being hit by the vehicles. The joggers will also have the right of the way as they will have a dedicated jogging track of 2.35 kilometres in length.

"There is a great demand for non-motorised transport in the park. However, many times, joggers or walkers complain that the cyclists come in between them and vice versa. So, we will be having both the tracks parallel so that the cyclists and joggers/walkers can enjoy their respective activities without hindrance," he added.

Once ready, cycling will be permitted inside the park between 8 am to 7 pm. Meanwhile, to help the park walkers, the trees inside the park will get a QR code facility where by scanning the codes, one will get to know the history, species and other information related to the tree.

The department officials claim that the QR codes will be hung around the trees in such a way that it will not hinder the growth of the tree. This will be a great move as people will be able to appreciate the biodiversity of the park.

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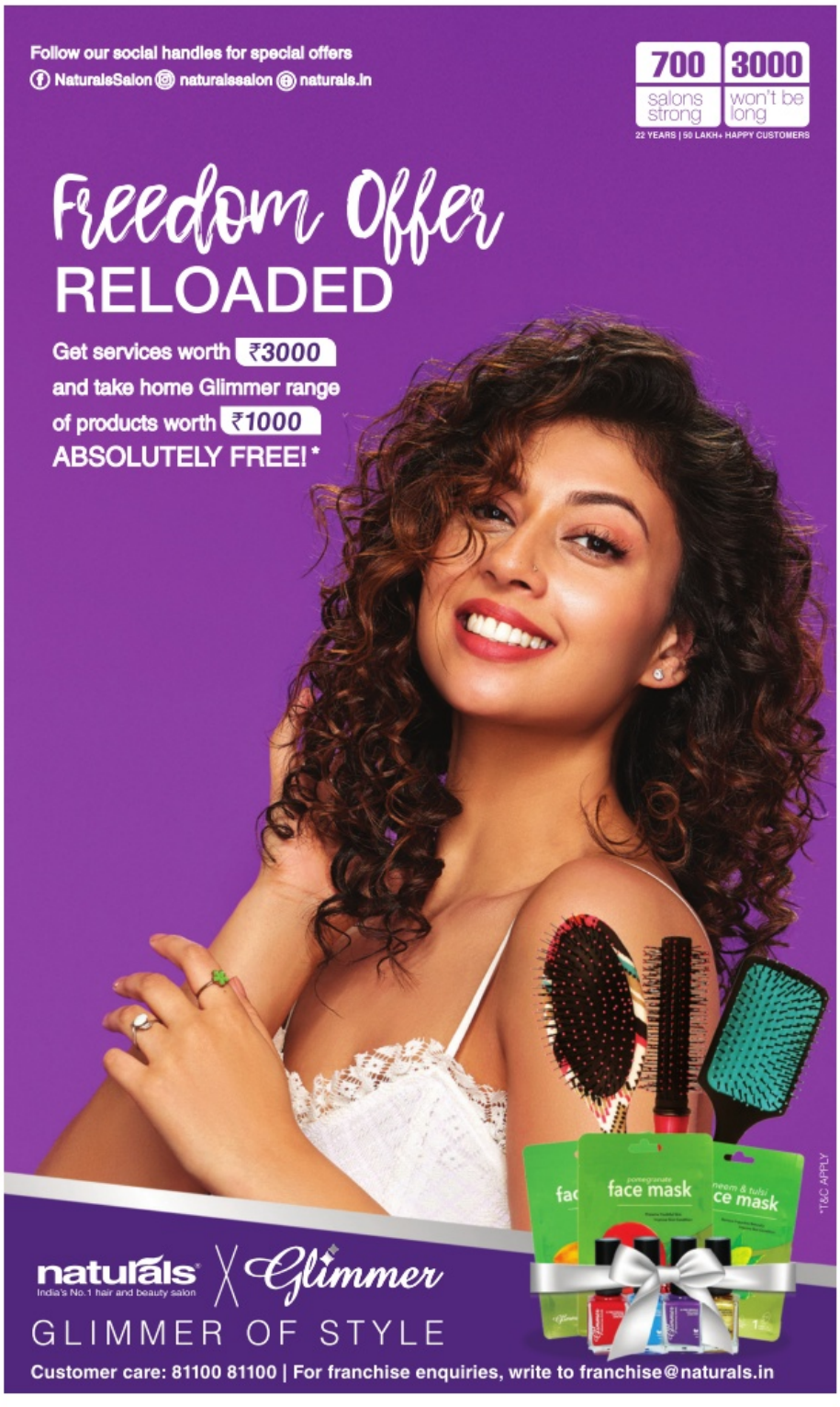
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Perks of adding real estate to your portfolio

Adding real estate to your portfolio offers key diversification and inflation hedging benefits, enhancing the portfolio's risk-adjusted returns.

"Real estate is a low-risk, high-return investment when held long-term (minimum five years). It also hedges against inflation and shows much greater stability in comparison to bonds and stocks. It also offers tax breaks and deductions that mitigate the costs of owning and managing properties. As an investor, you also have the option of renting the property. This way, you can earn additional regular return while the value of the property appreciates over time. One must also not forget that property is a 'real asset', which means it has intrinsic value. The structure has value, as well as the land upon which the asset resides. Therefore, a well-chosen property can benefit from favourable demand and supply dynamics, and infrastructure developments in the surrounding area," says Vineet Chellani, founder and CEO of a real estate advisory firm.

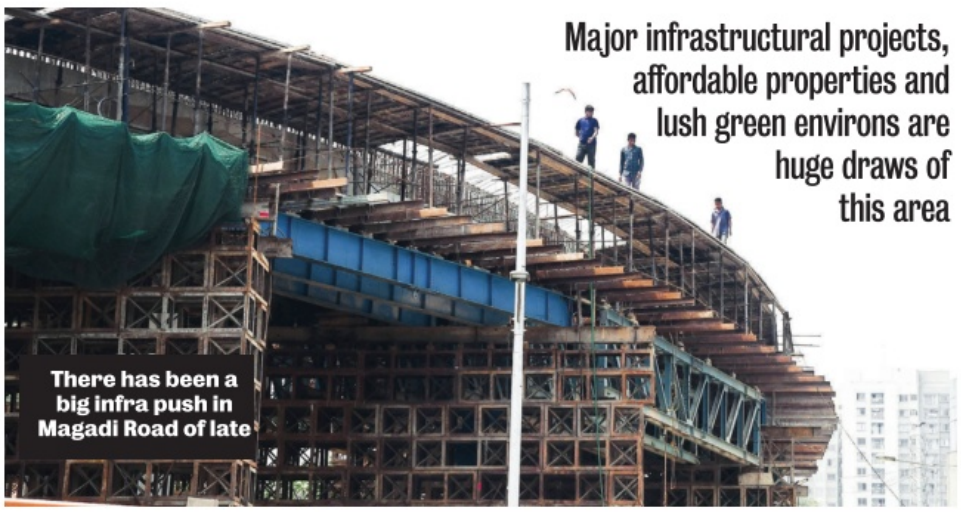
However, like any other investment, there are risks attached to real estate as well. Hence, it's important to keep certain aspects in mind. "Real estate has a high entry cost and has lesser liquidity as compared to mutual funds. Some properties come with underlying legal or structural issues that could prove to be expensive. Hence, for those who want to invest in real estate, it is best to stick to high-quality assets, which are constructed by established builders, and are close to completion," adds Amit Goenka, MD and CEO, Nisus Finance.

In a nutshell, "Plan your taxes, understand the portfolio you are investing in, and last, start early," says Rema Ramchandran, head of client portfolio and service, Indiassetz.

– TimesProperty

MAKE HOME SWEET HOME AT MAGADI ROAD

Major infrastructural projects, affordable properties and lush green environs are huge draws of this area


There has been a big infra push in Magadi Road of late

Magadi Road is set to get a big boost with the State Government planning to expand the Metro line here. As per the plan, Phase three of Metro will connect the Outer Ring Road from Hebbal to JP Nagar with interchange at Hebbal (with the Airport line). Thanks to this line, the residents of Magadi Road will be connected to the following areas: BEL Circle, Peenya, Kanteerava studio, Sumanahalli Cross, Nagarabavi Circle, Nayandanahalli (intersection with pink line), PES institute of Technology, Hosakerehalli Cross, Kamakya bus depot and JP Nagar.

The second route will connect Magadi Road with Kadabagere with stations at Hosahalli, Vinayak Nagar, Sumanahali Cross, Sunkadakatte, Herohalli and Byadarahalli. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had earlier announced another Metro line from Hebbal to Sarjapur with stations at Mehkri Circle, Basaveshwara Circle, Wilson Garden, NIMHANS, Dairy Circle, Suddguntepalya, St John's Hospital, Agara, Iblur, Bellandur Gate, Carmelaram, Dommasandra and Sompura.

As a result of developments, the areas in and around Magadi Road are becoming the major hotspots for property investment. Many areas in the periphery are seeing a big boom in the property market and one among the hotspots are the plots near Nelamangala-Tavarekere and Magadi Roads. Many of the property buyers and potential investors are eyeing this sector as these areas offer a host of advantages compared to other areas.

It is not just infrastructure projects as the residents get a feel of lush green environs too. Recently, Bommai had inaugurated a tree park at Machohalli which was the Western Bengaluru's first tree park. This tree park has come up on an area of 94 acres. The works on renovating this tree park was on for the last few years.

Currently, the Bengaluru-Magadi road is being widened to a four-lane road. The 50-km road that connects Bengaluru to Magadi Town has seen a drastic increase in traffic in recent times. While the road till Gollarahatti (near NICE junction) falls under the BBMP limits, the road from Gollarahatti to Magadi road falls under the rural limits. The BBMP is currently in the process of widening the road from Outer Ring Road till Gollarahatti. The project from Gollarahatti to Magadi is being taken up at a cost of Rs 1,036 crore. Once this road is developed, it will be used as an alternative road to reach Kunigal-Mangaluru Road.

Property developers in and around Magadi Road say that there is also another great advantage of buying property here as most of the properties are quite affordable and the sellers offer a number of sops and support for those who want to buy property. The developers say that those who want to buy any property in and around Magadi road can easily go for a property visit and have a firsthand view of the property they want to buy. These site visits which are free of cost will help property buyers to assess the area and make the right choice while buying their dream property.

– Prakash VL

'Invest now and get first mover advantage'

The areas in and around Magadi Road are an industrial hub providing jobs to thousands. Right now, the area is turning into a major residential area as it has a lot of utilities coming up. There are some major shopping areas like GT World Mall. Besides this, there are a number of multi-specialty hospitals along with schools.

For easing of traffic, Magadi Road is now being converted into a four-laned road. The proposed Peripheral Ring Road will provide good connectivity to Tumakuru roads and airport as well. There is a Major Arterial Road coming up which will be a big boost to realty. This is a 10-km road that runs parallel to NICE road and provides excellent connectivity between Magadi and Mysuru roads besides easing traffic.

The Metro connectivity is also a big boost. Due to these factors, the buyers will have a first mover advantage if they buy property at Magadi road. This is a very important suggestion for a serious investor as the above developments are signs of the area developing at a rapid pace. If you invest now, then five years down the line you will never regret your decision.

– Vishrut Raichur, Marketing Head, KNS Infrastructure

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Who is in charge?

Residents of RT Nagar are irked by unsupervised BBMP road work; they say lack of sign boards is causing problems for commuters

Shreyashi Mukherjee
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Residents of HMT layout, RT Nagar are having a tough time. They say that officials from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) are reportedly conducting maintenance work, because of which they have dug up a stretch of the road on 4th Cross. However, they have not put up any barricades or sign boards.

Commuters also say that the lack of sign boards in front of the dug-up road makes it dangerous.

Hithesh K, a resident of the area, said, "They are doing maintenance work in pocket roads which are quite busy. They are replacing broken slabs under which there are drains. They have completely removed the slabs and there is no indication at all about this work. It is quite risky for commuters, especially during the night when visibility is low."

Baidya Prasad, another resident, said, "Since there are so sign boards or any information about the work going on, I entered this road and found out that I could not go any further. After that, I had to turn my vehicle and come all the way back, which took me a lot of time. I have seen a lot of people having the same problems, and it is an inconvenience for us all."

Residents complain that even at night the area is left unsupervised. They told BM that they have only seen labourers and no BBMP official supervising the work.

Raghu Madar, also a resident, said that there is no contractor or official from the civic body present near the site to supervise the quality of work.

When he asked the labourers, they were unable to tell him when an official would arrive.

"They just said that he will come in some time," he said.

People affected by the situation tried to take their complaints to the authorities.

However, the authorities said that it was not an issue for which they could raise a ticket.

A BBMP official said that he would look into the matter.

People have complained about the workers replacing broken slabs without putting up barricades or boards indicating work in progress

> **"There is no indication at all about this work. It is quite risky for commuters, especially during the night when visibility is low**
> –Hithesh K, resident

Two days to fix city footpaths

Saumyangi Yadav
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

After several complaints from pedestrians, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to clear the footpaths and roadsides by removing any kind of construction material, pipelines, and debris causing blockages.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath recently issued an official order directing the Chief engineers of all BBMP zones to take immediate action on the issue and clear out footpaths before 4 pm on Sunday, August 21.

Encroachment has been a serious issue in the city. Pavements are often littered with construction material, garbage, and pipelines in many areas. The civic body authorities said that they receive a number of such complaints from different parts of the city and pedestrians are often forced to walk on busy roads.

Vishwanath, BBMP Chief Engineer, Dasarahalli zone, told Bangalore Mirror, "We get complaints from people if any construction material, bricks, or pipes have been lying on the footpath for a long time. We have started the process of clearing the footpath and are identifying regions that require attention."

People want the BBMP to fix broken pavements along with clearing out roadsides

BBMP is also encouraging residents to highlight the areas where the footpaths have been encroached in order to make the process easier.

Shashi Kumar, BBMP Chief Engineer, Bommanahalli zone, said, "All chief engineers got orders for removing any kind of obstruction from footpaths. Recently, due to water pipeline work going on in several areas, footpaths have been littered with debris. We will be clearing any such scraps."

Residents who have been facing difficulties due to the poor conditions of the footpaths in the city are happy that the authorities are finally taking steps.

"It was much needed in Bengaluru. In some areas, huge cement pipes are lying on the roadside for multiple weeks now. There is no space for the people to walk. One of my friends almost met with an accident. I hope that along with clearing the footpaths, they also repair the slabs where it is needed. There are several areas in the city with broken footpaths," said Jayanth R, a resident of Indiranagar.

Illegal parking on the roadside and encroachment by street vendors is also common in the city, residents say.

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Arekere

The road from Arekere to Byrapura is badly damaged. Authorities need to take action.

Watch out!
Old Madras Road

There are ditch-like potholes on Old Madras Road near 100 Feet crossing.

Dangerous stretch
Magadi Road

Magadi Road near Karumariyamma temple is dangerous.

Pause for paws: Shock on B'luru's footpaths

Poor earthing near streetlights giving electric shocks to stray, pet dogs

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Pavithra P got the shock of her life when she was walking her six-year-old golden retriever along the Race Course Road opposite Taj West End a week ago. All of a sudden, the dog started yelping and seemed almost like it was having a seizure. Later Pavithra figured out what had happened -- her pet had suffered an electric shock.

This was not the only such case. There have been few reports of pet and stray dogs getting electric shocks on city pavements of late. And a majority of the incidents have occurred in the central business district area.

Pavithra narrated the sequence of events. "A week back, we were walking on Race Course Road when our dog started yelping with her tail tucked between her legs. This happened near a streetlight recently put up by Bengaluru Smart City Ltd. This is our usual route for our evening walk, and we could not understand the cause at first," she said. According to Pavithra, her dog had got the electric shock due to earthing issues as it had been raining over the past few days.

"We did not expect this on a well-paved footpath recently done by the Smart City so we started walking back on the same stretch. The moment we reached the same streetlight, she yelped again and ran for a good half a kilometre. We called her but she didn't respond. Two street dogs walking with us too yelped and ran away," she said.

The pavements are most dangerous right after a spell of rain

"While people are protected from stray voltage due to footwear, dogs fall prey –Pavithra, pet parent

Sometimes the shocks are serious. "We know of two dogs passing away due to electrocution in the last month and a half. I live in Vasanth Nagar and my dog recently had a serious electric shock near one of the street light poles. Whoever is putting up these lights has done a poor job of earthing. We have reached out to BESCOM officials but haven't heard back," said Priya Chetty Rajagopal, a resident.

"It has happened to my dog multiple times," said another resident. Dog owners say the city needs to do more to make it safer for animals. "While people are protected from stray voltage due to footwear, dogs fall prey often. Officials should ensure that all the electric poles have the electric earthing systems," said Pavithra.

According to veterinarians, it is important to bring an animal to a vet if he or she has been shocked. "The most common symptom of a dog getting a shock is a loud yelp followed by the dog being scared. Muscle tensing, burns and in the worst case, collapse may occur too," said a veterinarian.

Meet the world's youngest hair donor for kids with cancer

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A Bengaluru-based couple's one-year-old daughter in the United States has won accolades for being the world's youngest hair donor for kids with cancer, who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy. The child has so far donated 10 inches of her hair towards making wigs for young patients through an NGO.

Kiara Praveen, born on October 29, 2020, of Karnataka, now residing in Atlanta, Georgia, set a record for being the youngest girl to donate hair for cancer patients. Kiara donated her ten inches long hair to 'Free Wigs 4 Kids Inc.' - for making free wigs with natural hair for cancer patients in February 2022, at the age of 1 year and 3 months as confirmed in May this year, the certificate of Asia Book of Records stated.

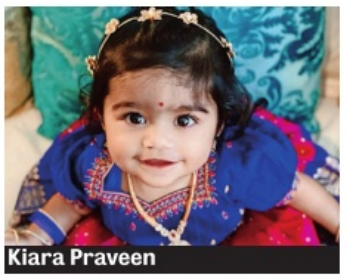
Kiara's mother Vidya recollects how it all started. Vidya and her husband Praveen who is a software engineer, migrated to the US for the purpose of the latter's job for five plus years.

Vidya recollected that she always wanted a baby girl. "Hair donation was in my bucket list for myself, but Kiara was blessed with good hair at a young age, so I decided why not donate her hair for a noble cause. Over this process, I had a thought and decided to register his act and bring in recognition for her which adds on to her personal growth, prosperity and social responsibility as well," Vidya stated.

Gradually Vidya started researching and ended up finding this category which was applicable and a wonderful credit for a noble cause, she went on to add.

Vidya proceeded with all the protocol with documents submission, which came out as a huge surprise to her husband Praveen and their entire family as well. Everyone was overwhelmed and it was a whole next level of excitement that the family shared, Vidya said.

Record-maker Kiara's mother did the research to find this noble cause


Kiara Praveen

Kiara, at her tender age of 1 year and three months has already donated 10 inches of hair to an NGO based in Atlanta, Georgia that thrives to make free wigs for cancer kids and who cannot afford to make or buy one.

The NGO named Freewigs4kids, founded by a US citizen Quilla Bohannon, has been working towards bringing smiles on every child who has cancer and chemo often affects the scalp and hair growth which leads to hair fall.

The world's youngest hair donor for cancer patients has already made name in four books of records such as Kalam Book of Records, India Book of Records, Asia Book of Records, and World Book of Records.

RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

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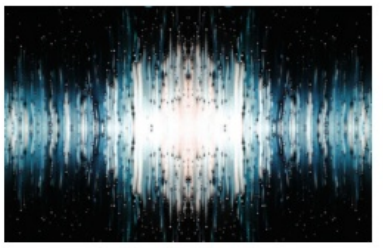
Dissonance of doublespeak



Where is the collective's conscience? Is it lost in WhatsApp groups, Twitter threads or Instagram selfies? Or is it plotting strategy for self promotion amid all that baloney about metaverse? None of these, if you will, are going to rescue the nation from crippling setbacks handed out by hatred that is allowed to fester for the othering of fellow Indians, poverty, hunger, record joblessness and inflation in the midst of a nose-diving rupee and the looming threat of global recession.

Of late, it feels as though we are trapped inside a gory first-person shooter video game; not as the shooter, but as victims. In it, the gamer is always at war destroying everything head on. Such games gained a following in 90s India during the computer graphics boom. Some games were criticised for the lack of sensitivity towards the young who would grab the chance to take hold of the joystick or keyboard and battle on; invariably and unknowingly they acclimatised to the gore and bloodshed involved early on, just as youngsters now grow up lost in social media vice and lose out on many aspects of the human condition, such as a conscience.

In the social media's world of absurd and rather weird fraternising, initially we were not aware of its ills and transgressions upon society; eventually though we were told what it was doing to the young - fact is it is not only destabilising the young but persons of all ages. Both gaming and social media are instances of social tech's grim-hold on our real physical lives in the wired world depriving us of basic human nature. Emoting through emoticons we are savvy. When confronted with the spectre of horrifyingly cruel and abhorrent socio-political discourse of the day, we are left dumbfounded, unable to speak truth to power.

Though still the majority of us are not weaned off from neither the gore of violent gaming nor the social media vice - no doubt we have ended up with an ugly spawn of both in real-life interactions. By and large it has started to reflect in our in-person behaviour too, or very well, the absolute lack of real emotions. A nation seemingly devoid of a conscience in the face of the worst atrocities is worrisome for its future. One of the worst things social tech did is transmit its anonymous and brute hooliganism to the physical world and allow it to gradually become the norm, while propagating a society where loose morals, violence and bullying of the vulnerable are normalised and garlanded. In retrospect, how did we get here?

That said, conscience is a great constant for human beings and a universal equaliser. If it were changeable then something's amiss. Conscience is not a software algorithm that you can programme to feel a certain way with inherent bias and prejudice. At the moment, this nation's conscience seems to be functioning akin to a flawed algorithm that profiles and alienates its own people. As we fold up the tricolour (following the code) certain questions linger on events that transpired in the past week, apart from how to cautiously set aside the 200 million or so national flags.

One day you proclaim justice for women from the ramparts of the Red Fort and the next day there is a celebration of women's violation of the most heinous kind in the release and garlanding of rape, gangrape and murder convicts. How should the citizen glean the dissonance of these acts? More importantly, how should that citizen, who voted you to power, as you championed justice for Nirbhaya, comprehend the dissonance in your statements and action? Or is it intentional subliminal messaging to a society to toe the line and be subservient?

In the post-coronavirus, climate-ravaged, inflation-ridden flailing economy staring at a slow down, the digital echo chambers are shrinking as we speak and the cacophony of the dissonance between words and deeds in these rogue spaces is deafening. There appears to be deep-rooted deceit beneath the facade of what is on public display. Things are almost surreal. Ideals that were touted as paramount - such as the fight against corruption, empowerment of women, lifting millions out of poverty and farmers' welfare - that catapulted once nondescript politicos to the corridors of power, have been thrown out of the window as opposition spokespersons remind the country of its collective conscience in the face of sickening levels of decadence we are spiralling into instance after instance. And yet, there appears to be no reflective uproar from this great nation.

The nebulous nature of our social status quo, where little by little, inch by inch, word by word, speech after speech, violation upon violation, malice is unleashed on a tolerant people, is going to be damning for this country. That is why we need to fix this glitch sooner.

Man kills self, poisons 3 kids after wife elopes with lover in Saudi Arabia

In a shocking incident, a man in Tumakuru district of Karnataka, allegedly consumed poison along with his three children on Thursday after his wife eloped with her lover in Saudi Arabia, police said.

The incident took place in the PH Colony of Tumakuru.

The man identified as Samiulla died after consuming poison while his three children are reportedly in critical condition at a hospital in Bengaluru.

According to police, Sahira Banu, wife of the deceased Samiulla, had left him and went to Saudi Arabia with her lover without telling her husband and parents.

Video calls

Sahira was employed as a maid in Saudi Arabia. The police said that Sahira made alleged video calls to her husband, showing her enjoying at different locations with her lover in Saudi Arabia.

The police added that Sahira taunted her husband with alleged videos of her living together with his lover and did not return home even after her husband cried and begged her to come back.

Samiulla had told his three children that their mother will never return and allegedly gave poison to them. Later, he himself consumed poison.

Samiulla died while he was taken to the hospital. The police have started investigating the matter. – IANS

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Positive news: Active clusters drop to 12

Out of 12, nine are in Mahadevapura; officials warn against flouting rules

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Just a month ago, the number of active Covid clusters in the city had risen to 28 – a pattern visible even in the beginning of August. However, a dip in cases has been recorded over the past week and there are 12 active clusters at present.

In the first week of July, when cases started to increase, the city reported 28 active clusters, 23 of which were from Mahadevapura zone alone. On August 2, the cumulative active clusters dropped to 21, and as of August 18, they have further reduced to 12. Out of the 12 active clusters, nine are from Mahadevapura zone, two are from Dasarahalli, and one is from the West zone.

In the beginning of August, the city's active cases (8,296) had increased in comparison to other metropolitan cities. The active cases as of Thursday are 6,534.

A BBMP health official said, "The daily Covid cases that are being reported are quite low. Most of them are under home isolation and have been recovering well. Very few are admitted in the hospitals. With two doses of vaccines, the immunity of the patients was high, but as the antibodies start to reduce, those who get infected and have not taken the booster dose will be at a risk of getting infections with high severity. Hence people should get their booster shots without fail."

Most of the wards in the city like Chickpete, Cottonpet, Rayapura, Nilasandra, Kushal Nagar, Padarayanapura, and Banashankari Temple ward have zero Covid cases.

The wards which have a high number of cases are Bellandur with 62 cases reported in the past seven days, followed by Doddanekundi with 30 cases, HSR layout with 25 cases, and Horamavu with 23 cases.

Health workers collect swab samples for testing at KSR railway station (file)

> **To avoid getting infected, Covid-appropriate behaviour must be followed especially as there is increased movement now**
>
> –a public health expert

"Bellandur is one of the biggest wards in the city with a larger number of apartment complexes. There is an increase in movement of people to workplaces and even other countries. People are now extremely ignorant. Everybody has stopped following protocols. The number of deaths has definitely come down, but to avoid getting infected, Covid-appropriate behaviour must be followed," said a public health expert.

The expert added that people should complete their vaccinations.

As of Friday, 51 active Covid cases were reported from hospitals. Over 29 patients are admitted in general wards, 18 in ICUs, and four in the HDU unit.

Cops file FIR against college management

Bellie Thomas
bellie.thomas@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

Mount Carmel College management including the principal is in the dock for organising an event without prior police permission on August 15, at Palace Road.

The police were in for a surprise as they were outnumbered by the crowd that gathered for the function as they were expecting less than a 10th of it. The High Grounds police struggled for over three hours to contain the crowd and clear the traffic before filing a complaint with their seniors.

Based on a complaint filed by Sachin HP, a Police Sub-Inspector (PSI), the High Grounds police have registered an FIR charging the management and the principal under wrongful restraint, causing danger, obstruction or injury to any person in any public way and public nuisance. The police have issued notice to the accused to appear before the police for questioning. Police officer Sachin, in his complaint, stated that the college management had organised the event meant for around 500 people, but sold tickets to over 5,000 people. The tickets were given to the students to sell and those who purchased the tickets were unable to enter the venue because there was no place to accommodate them.

> **The complaint stated that the event was for 500 people, but tickets sold to 5,000 people**

Many including the students of the same college were stopped at the gate by security as there was no place to accommodate them, and hence, there was a huge ruckus outside the college gate which almost choked the traffic on Palace Road.

The approximate number of invitees, which could have helped the cops to provide security cover and organise the event in a better manner was not provided, the officer added.

Reduce bus fares, say activists, commuters

Saumyangi Yadav
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

BMTC recently released the official ridership data for August 15 when BMTC buses were made ticket-free for a day. According to the data, more than 61 lakh passengers availed of the free transport facility on Independence Day.

Looking at the astonishingly high ridership, activists and commuters have said that lower fares, and more such 'free ticket' days, can encourage the public to take public transport.

Srinivas Alavilli, public transport activist and head of civic participation at Janaagraha, said, "This experiment by BMTC has shown that if we reduce the bus fares, more people will take the bus. When more people will take the bus, there will be less traffic on the roads and less pollution."

Passengers travelling by a BMTC bus on I-Day

BangaloreMirror
Free bus ride: All on board

Our Aug 16 story covered how people made the most of free bus rides

The daily average ridership for August is 28 lakh. Alavilli also added that by making dedicated bus lanes and improving the last mile connectivity, the public can be encouraged further.

"I have learned that affordability is one of the major reasons that people choose public transport. Other factors are reliability, accessibility, and speed. BMTC can also consider introducing more no-fare days in the future, to study the data," he further added.

However, it may be a while before such a step is implemented as BMTC officials said that they were not planning to reduce the bus fares. "Neither are we planning to reduce the bus fares anytime soon," said BMTC chief mechanical engineer MN Srinivas.

Other people believe that better tracking services and accessibility will also help increase the use of public transport. "Along with the price, they should also work on making it more accessible. Better services will mean better results," said Siddharth VK, another regular commuter of BMTC. BMTC also said that on August 15, a total of 5,051 buses were operated.

Display board at the airport

To promote the use of public transport, an information display board with details of all the BMTC bus routes has been added at the entry to Kempegowda International Airport.

The board has information about the routes and bus timings of the Vayu Vajra buses.

ANAND PANDIT MOTION PICTURES
AND JANNOCK FILMS PRESENT
JANNOCK FILMS
પર્યુષણ પૂર્વે જૈન
ભાઈ બહેનોએ જોવાલાયક
ફક્ત
મહિલાઓ
માટે
ફક્ત
મનોરંજન
ગુજરાતી ફિલ્મ
હવે જુઓ
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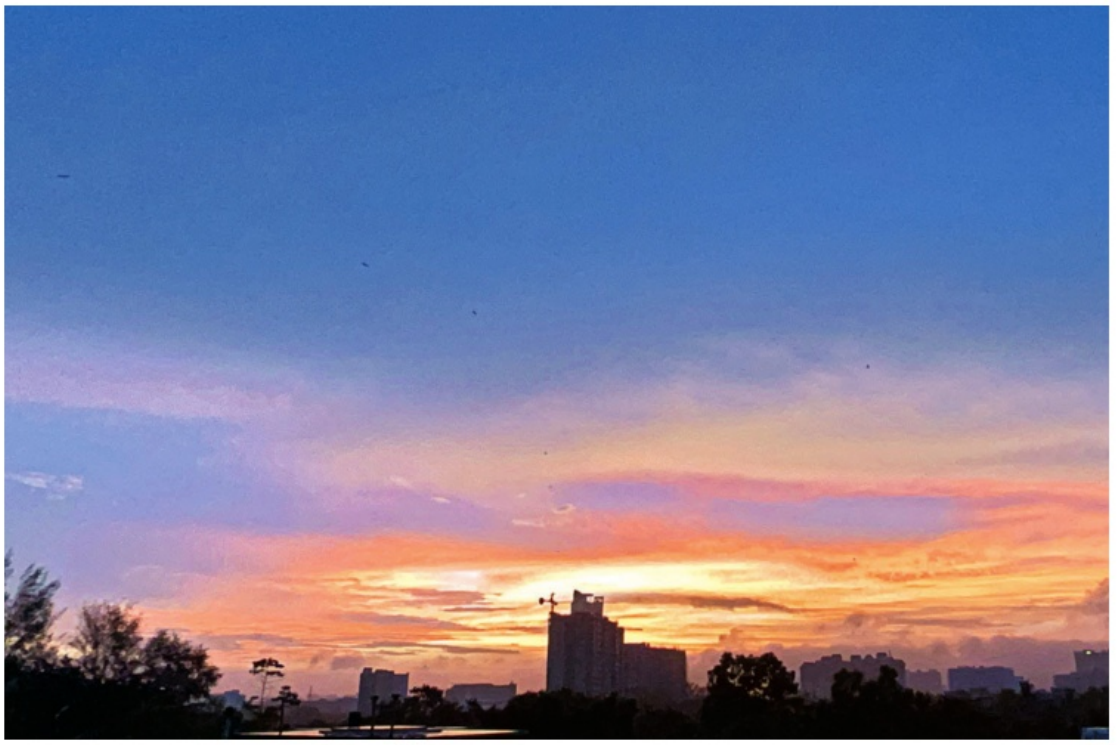
BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

MORNING MOOD

Different colours seen during the sunrise in Bengaluru



The picture was clicked by reader **Jalaja Mohan**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Dug up. Forgotten. Never repaired

Driving on Jayamahal's Munimarappa Road is a costly affair thanks to manhole's steel frames that slash tyres

Saumyangi Yadav
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

When government authorities remain negligent about civic issues, it is the common Bengalurean who has to pay the price. In this case, it is the residents of Munimarappa Road of Jayamahal who have to bear the brunt of a road that was dug up but never repaired.

"Five years back, the road to RS Palya off Munimarappa Road was dug up for the purpose of laying water pipes. Four months ago, the authorities came and laid stone jelly in the dug-up area. But they seem to have forgotten about it now as no follow-up has been done," said John Vasumitra, a 77-year-old resident of the area.

Stretch on Munirappa Road was dug up for laying water pipes. After that, authorities simply left it in that state

Vasumitra told Bangalore Mirror that a short stretch of the road, behind the Airtel office at Nandidurga Road, was left in a bad condition for years. It is a residential area and eight-10 families live on that stretch of the road.

"The steel frames that cover the manholes on the road have sharp edges which have slashed many car tyres. When it first happened to one of my guests, we were very shocked and angry. The spikes have been causing much misery and financial loss to us residents and whoever passes by these roads. Every home faces this issue. We tried to complain but there is no action... We have no problem in investing money and getting the stretch repaired ourselves but, in the future, the authorities will come and say that it wasn't done properly," he said.

The residents are unsure about whom to complain to about the matter. "We complained to BWSSB, but they told us that it wasn't done under their authority.

"We tried to complain to the MLA but we are unable to reach him as well. We are not even sure who dug up the roads in the first place and the authorities seem to have forgotten about it too," Vasumitra added.

Bangalore Mirror tried to reach BBMP about the matter, however, there was no response.

DID YOU KNOW?

Regarded by many as the maker of modern Bengaluru, Sir Kumarapuram Seshadri Iyer (1845 – 1901), was an Indian advocate who served as the 15th Diwan of Mysore from 1883 to 1901. He was the second longest serving diwan of Mysore after Diwan Purnaiah. Seshadri Iyer was born in a Tamil-speaking family from Palghat in the Malabar district of Madras Presidency which is in modern-day Kerala. He started the Mysore Civil Service Examinations which were held for the first time in 1891 and the Department of Geology and the Department of Agriculture were founded in 1894 and 1898. Other notable achievements include the construction of the Vanivilas Sagar dam across Vedavati river, the initiation of the Shivanasamudra hydroelectric project in 1899, electricity and drinking water (the latter through pipes) being supplied to Bangalore and the founding of the Archaeological Survey of Mysore (1890) and the Oriental Manuscripts Library. He was responsible for the decongestion of streets and reconstructing the city in the aftermath of the Bangalore plague.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

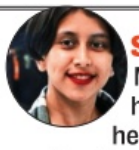
9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

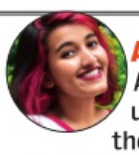
Tell us about your close encounter with the traffic police in Bengaluru?



Shreya BN, Student
My friend and I were riding back home and she wasn't wearing her helmet. Later, we were caught by the police. We explained why she couldn't wear it since she had her hair transplanted. Eventually he got curious and asked details about the same as he was bald too. He denied the fine we were suppose to pay!

NCT Aravind, Concentrix employee
Once, my sister and I were riding back home from a temple nearby. She was not wearing the helmet and our vehicle was stopped. They didn't entertain any excuses and I had to pay the fine in cash.

Vishnu Dev, Sales executive
There was a time when the traffic police used to check mobiles of youngsters. I too had such an experience where in the traffic police stopped my vehicle and asked for my phone. This is not right on many levels. But later on the issue was called out and sorted out.



Abhirami Nair, Student
A few days back, there was an unprecedented traffic block near the BTM park and people were stuck for almost an hour. In the midst of this chaos, an ambulance was also stuck. The traffic police was informed about this and immediately, a few officers came and efficiently managed the traffic and made way for everyone.

Noell James Padayattil, IT Professional
I was stopped by the traffic police when I was returning from work. I was fined for not renewing my vehicle's pollution certificate. I agreed to pay the fine. But I didn't have cash in hand. So I requested them to allow me to pay online through their website. But they insisted that i pay in cash. I had to walk to the ATM and get the money and pay them. They didn't give me the receipt as well.

SPEAK TO US

What is the one civic amenity you are missing in your area?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Mysuru Passport Seva Kendra sees high demand

92,000 passports were issued by Kendra in 5 years since it opened

Passport Seva Kendra, which is in the Post Office premises of Metagalli in Mysuru, has been witnessing a huge demand. Around 92,000 people have benefited from it in the last five years.

Under a pilot project of the central government using post office staff, a passport office was started in Mysuru in 2017. Before the establishment of this centre, people from Mysuru and surrounding areas had to travel to the Bengaluru and Mangalore passport offices to get their passports. This was time-consuming and expensive.

Most MNC companies make sure their candidates hold a passport when they are hired. This allows the employee to travel abroad whenever required. The presence of companies like Wipro and Infosys made a passport service centre necessary.

MP Pratap Simha tried to bring Passport Seva Kendra to Mysuru after getting positive responses regarding the same. In the year 2017, with the co-operation of the then Foreign Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj, Passport Seva Kendra was officially started in Mysuru. Former Central Minister Ananth Kumar inaugurated it. It has been serving people in the vicinity since then and has issued passports to 92,000 applicants over the last five years. Students, business people, officials, and travellers from Mysuru, Hassan, Kodagu, and Chikkamagaluru have been applying for passports there.

Earlier, people from Mysuru were forced to travel to the passport offices in Bengaluru and Mangalore if they needed a passport

Paperless Office

An individual who wants to get a passport must apply online. They will receive a message of the date and time of the verification of the documents. When the applicant visits the Passport Seva Kendra at the designated time, officials will verify their records, take their thumb impressions, and send the documents to the Regional Office in Bengaluru. Later, police personnel will visit the applicant's house and verify if the applicant has any criminal background. If there are no cases, then the passport will be sent to the applicant. The process is paperless.

"It is not possible to meet the demands of so many people. The Seva Kendra will be managed by TCS in the next two months

– Ravindra Paul, passport officer

An officer from the Passport Seva Kendra, Ravindra Paul, said, "Passport Seva Kendra is in high demand. However, it is not possible to meet the demands of so many people. The Seva Kendra will be managed by Tata Consultancy Services in the next two months. Then the records of more than 250 people can be verified."

MP Pratap Simha said, "The Passport Seva Kendra in Mysuru has distributed passports to over 92,500 people till date. Documents of 100 people are being verified each day. It has been decided to increase this number to 250 on demand."

Passport Seva Kendra is now working with the help of the Post Office.

An IT employee, Deepak, said, "Sometimes our document verification takes months. Due to this, some people are choosing Chamarajanagar and Hassan for document verification. So, if they can verify documents of at least 250 people a day, the people of Mysuru may not be compelled to travel to other places."

— Prakash VL

HC wants 25:75 formula for CET repeaters

The High Court of Karnataka has proposed a new formula to clear the confusion over the 2022 Common Entrance Test (CET) for admission to professional courses in Karnataka. The dispute that the HC is hearing is regarding non-consideration of PUC (Pre-University Course) marks of students who passed PUC in 2020-21. In its suggestion on Thursday, the HC said the marks from PUC and CET can be considered in the ratio of 25:75. It said that the students and government can find a common ground with this arrangement.

The Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) has notified that second PU marks of 2020-21 students will not be considered for the purpose of ranking, and only their CET marks would be considered. Students were promoted in 2020-21 based on internal marks due to Covid. Many of these students are appearing for professional course admissions this year. They will be competing with students who wrote second PUC exams in 2021-22 in the regular course. Some of these repeat-students approached the HC saying that their 2020-21 PU and CET marks should be considered in a 50:50 ratio for CET rankings.

The HC bench of Justice S R Krishna Kumar is hearing a batch of seven different petitions filed by students in this regard. In an oral observation on Thursday, the court said that if KEA agrees to the 25:75 formula, 90 per cent of the problem would be solved.

Additional Advocate General Dhyan Chinnappa sought time to submit the government's reply to this suggestion. The hearing of the case was adjourned to August 22. **– PTI**

State of the station

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We allow visitors to wait either at the inspector's room or computer room as it is not advisable for visitors to wait at the verandah whenever it rains," said a traffic policeman.

Ironically, Karnataka State Police Complaints Authority has put up a notice board at the verandah advising the public to complain against police inspectors if the latter demand bribes or fail to attend to complaints. "No one, including Karnataka State Police Complaints Authority, is bothered about the pathetic condition of this police station. The higher authorities are aware of the need to either shift this police station to another building or construct a new building but nothing has been done," said a constable.

A few traffic police stations in the city have modern amenities including massaging facilities for the benefit of traffic policemen who need rest or relaxation after standing on the road for long hours to regulate the traffic. However, Hebbal traffic police station does not have basic amenities like chairs for visitors or proper toilets for the policemen.

Meanwhile, the traffic police inspector said a site has been allotted to construct a new building for the station but a litigation pertaining to the land is pending in a court. "We are supposed to have a new building on Jakkur Main Road but could not construct it yet since a case is pending in court. The construction of the building will begin as soon as the court gives a verdict," he said.

On the facilities and amenities at the traffic police station, the inspector said around 70 traffic policemen are attached to the station. "We are content with the available amenities and facilities. We are facing no problems," he said.

Big push for peace in Dakshina Kannada

Leaders demand equal justice for victims of recent communal violence

Leaders of Opposition parties and civil society organisations in Karnataka on Friday submitted a memorandum to Dakshina Kannada Deputy Commissioner K V Rajendra, urging him to take adequate measures to contain communal violence in the coastal district.

The delegation that met the Deputy Commissioner comprised representatives from Congress, CPI, CPI(M), JD(S), DK district Muslim Federation, Dalit organisations, and other outfits. The delegation demanded that equal justice be provided to the slain victims of the recent communal violence and to protect the Constitutional rights of all sections.

The leaders wanted the authorities to provide equal compensation to the families of the slain youths in the recent murders that took place in the district. Leaders of all parties, except the ruling BJP, were part of the delegation.

Former minister and Congress leader B Ramanath Rai, during the meeting, urged the deputy commissioner to direct the police to book the conspirators and plotters responsible for creating disharmony in society and send them behind the bars.

Former minister and Congress leader B Ramanath Rai said that the district administration should also hand over Mohammad Fazil's case to the NIA

The government should provide equal compensation to all the three victims who lost their lives in the communal violence. The district administration should also hand over the Mohammad Fazil murder case, allegedly a retaliatory attack after BJYM leader Praveen Nettar's murder, to the NIA, he said. DYFI state president Munir Katipalla said as the accused persons in the Nettar murder case are charged under the Unlawful Activities Prevention (UAPA) Act, the same should be applicable in the Fazil murder case too.

Actions like putting up a banner of Godse will create tension in society and swift action should be taken against those behind such activities, he said. After listening to the leaders, the Deputy Commissioner said the district administration had worked Constitutionally following directions of the government.

Rajendra said the district administration had imposed restrictions in the district as per intelligence inputs to avoid untoward incidents. On the installation of "provocative banners", he said a meeting was convened with police and officials of the revenue department and they have been asked to take action whenever required.

Congress leaders including MLCs Manjunath Bhandary and Harish Kumar, JD(S) leader Sushil Noronha, and delegation secretary K Yadav Shetty were among those present.

In the spate of violence last month, Fazil was murdered at Surathkal, Nettar was killed in Bellare, while Masood was hacked to death by assailants in Sullia. Masood (18) was murdered before Nettar's killing and Fazil (23) was hacked to death in Surathkal in an alleged retaliatory attack. **– PTI**

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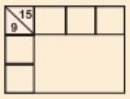
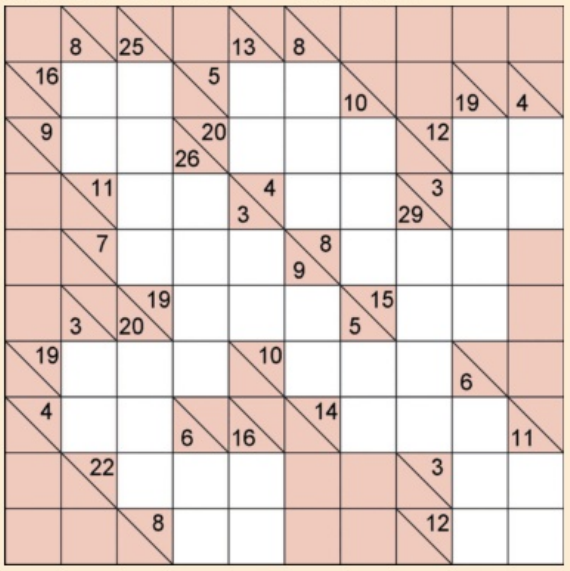
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

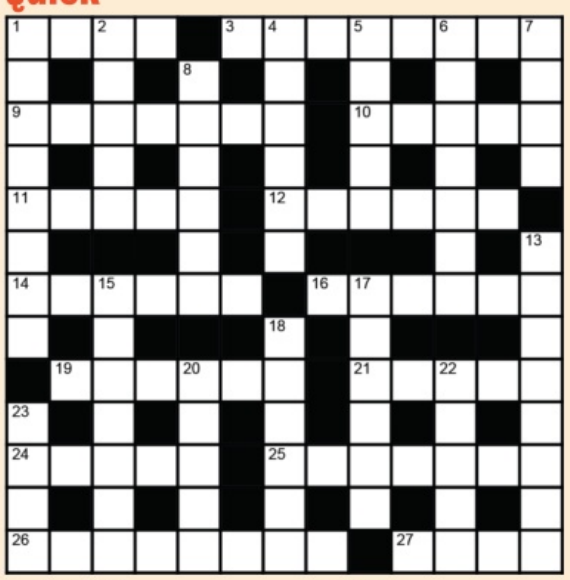


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 To suspend (4)
3 Uses needle and thread? (8)
9 Cinema in the Banashankari area (7)
10 Young attendants (5)
11 Demean (5)
12 Japanese system of unarmed combat (6)
14 Pleasure voyage (6)
16 Connect (6)
19 Form of printing (6)
21 Book of photographs (5)
24 Lazes (5)
25 Pastoral poem (7)
26 Most hurried (8)
27 Beastly retreats? (4)

DOWN

1 An absolute ruler (8)
2 Former India paceman Ashish ___ (5)
4 Uses one's mind (6)
5 Hoglike mammal (5)
6 Early evening meal (4,3)
7 Frame (4)
8 Ships of the desert? (6)
13 Barristers' suite-cum-office (8)
15 Spreads out or lays open to view (7)
17 Drags behind (6)
18 Aquatic mammals (6)
20 Nigri for one, Maki for another (5)
22 Brass instrument (5)
23 Desire or inclination (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Z EQUALS H

CHL YHLLUX DG PMJSBXGO, ZG CPAX DG AGOPYGO SLXU NSIXPG.

Linemaro

Even if there were no gravity on earth, I'd still fall for you

Mindchow

It is more easy to be wise for others than for ourselves

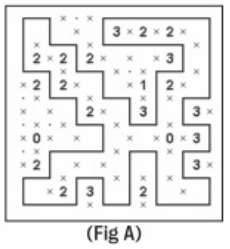
Joke of the day

Outpatient: A person who has fainted

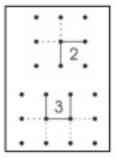
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

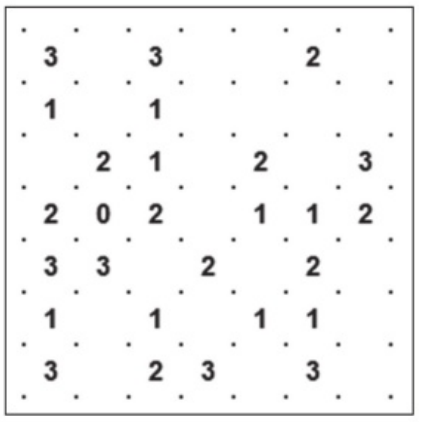


(Fig B) Not Allowed

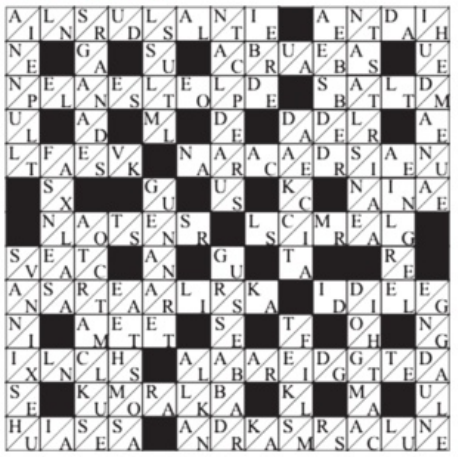
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



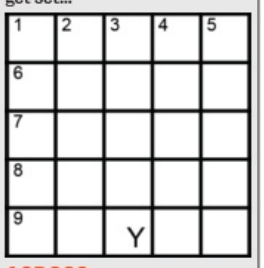
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

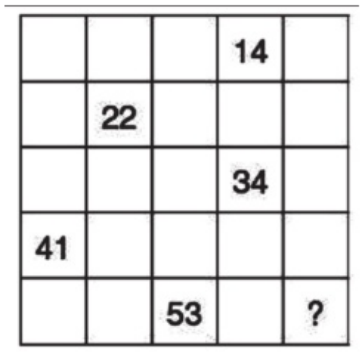
1 A sped; 6 Plain;
7 De Pun; 8 Gamer;
9 Reply

DOWN

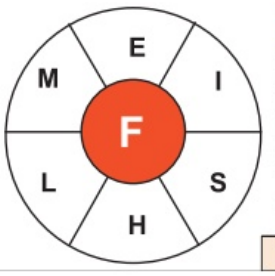
1 Lumps; 2 Appal;
3 Peary; 4 Gen id;
5 E nerd

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		5	7		4	1		
9			6		2			7
	8						9	
7	3		8		5		1	6
1	2		9		3		8	4
	7						2	
6			2		7			5
		2	4		8	7		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

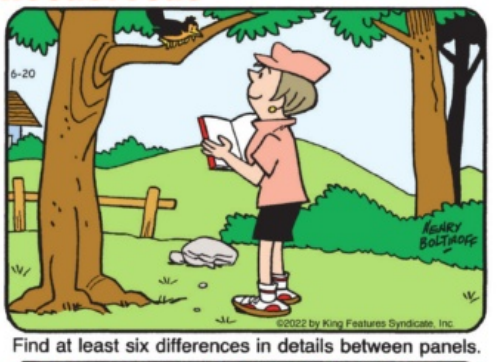
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 28
1 9 9 9

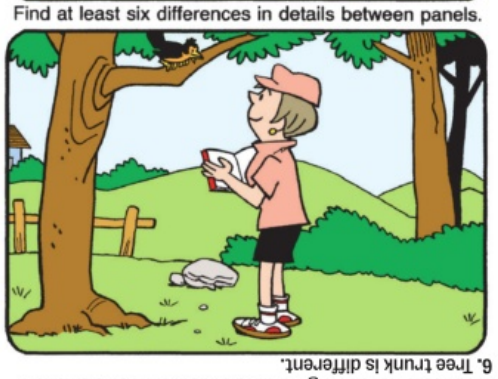
Medium = 11
2 3 7 9

Hard = 20
1 2 8 2

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Book is smaller. 2. Cap is different. 3. Fence is not as long. 4. Hill is added. 5. Roof is smaller. 6. Tree trunk is different.

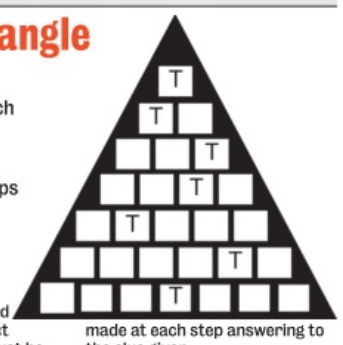
Riddler

It's time to get back at the Queen of Hearts by beheading words that start with "Qu". In this case, you remove the first TWO letters and still have a valid word. You will be given clues for the two words, longer word first.

1. Small game bird -> To be unwell
2. Large feather; pen -> Unwell; faulty
3. Nausea; uncomfortable -> Simple
4. Misgivings; scruples -> Donations to the poor

Alpha triangle

1 Tonne, abbr.
2 Bye!
3 Paintings and such
4 Classify or rank
5 Look hard at
6 Tips off
7 Price-fixing groups



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

YOU DON'T LIKE WHERE I PUT THE TEPEE...YOU DON'T LIKE THE WAY I TALK TO YOUR MOTHER...
6-7
DON'T I EVER DO ANYTHING THAT MAKES YOU HAPPY?
YES!

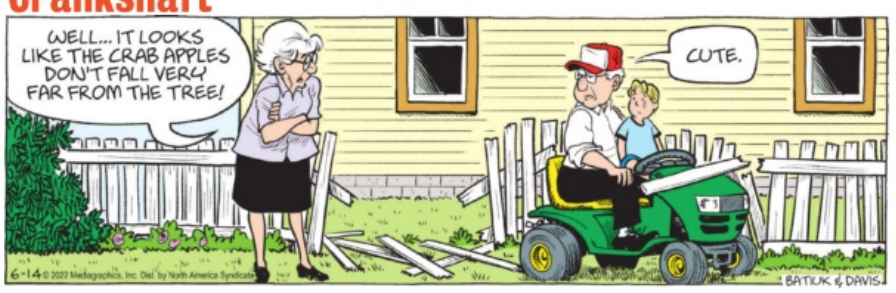
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

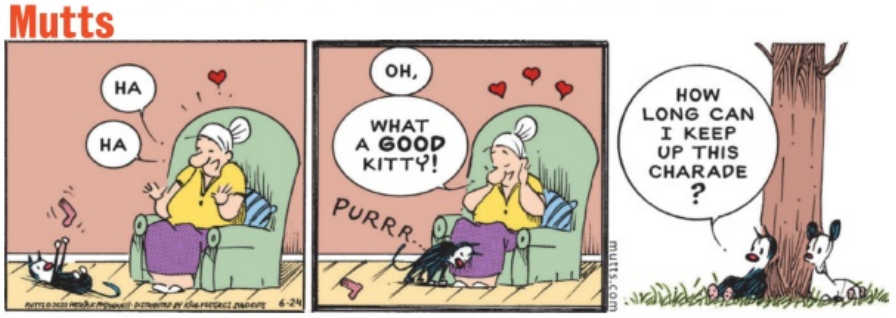
Hart of the city

I USED TO LOVE THE DOCTOR. BUT NOW ALL DR. WALSH TALKS ABOUT IS PUBERTY AND MY NATURAL CHANGES.
SO YOU WANNA WALK ON A POSSIBLY BROKEN FOOT TO AVOID TALKING ABOUT PUBERTY?
YEAH!
PUT ON YOUR SHOES. WE'RE GOING TO THE DOCTOR.
NNOOO
HEART OF THE CITY © 2022 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


WELL... IT LOOKS LIKE THE CRAB APPLES DON'T FALL VERY FAR FROM THE TREE!
CUTE.
6-14 © 2022 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by North America Syndicate
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, until late afternoon, the day may not be good. You may feel unhappy and nervous, but as the day goes on, internal vitality will boost your self-confidence. You should avoid carelessness in terms of finances, profession, and studies. Lovebirds will plan for short trips.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today your tendency to overspend will affect your savings. Be careful while expressing yourself at work and on the domestic front too. Avoid lending money. Postpone making important decisions in terms of real estate and other assets. You should avoid a tendency of elevation from your responsibilities.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today social get-togethers will re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in the near future. Those related to glamour, art, and fashion will plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students will perform better today in terms of their academics. Lovebirds will enjoy happy moments.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today will be a busy day for you in terms of work. Overload can make you tired, but you will enjoy your work. You will not spend money on worthless items. You will be more polite with your family, friends, and loved ones. You may also get some good news from family members.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, help from elders will give you confidence. You must follow your intuition before taking any initiative which will help you at your work. Your intuition will help you gain more in terms of finances. You may plan to visit some spiritual place with your family members. You should control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life. Students can expect good results.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, before noon, you may feel happy and will enjoy your work. Afternoon onwards, negative feelings could make you dull. This will impact your professional life. You can expect some domestic arguments as well. Avoid lending money to anyone. You will analyse yourself and figure out your negativities. Occult sciences will attract you.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you are blessed by the moon. You will be in a very good mood since morning. You will be more romantic, which will fill your domestic life with harmony. Your patience will help you do your best professionally. You will see some coordination with your colleagues and business partners.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You will be successful in controlling worthless expenditure, which will boost your bank balance. You should be careful with your kid's health. Singles can expect unexpected progress in terms of marriage. People related to travel, diplomats, and supply-chain workers will do better. Be careful with stomach issues.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today your plans may not work on the professional front, which will make you arrogant. You should try to avoid making important decisions in terms of investments and relationships. Couples and lovebirds should try to avoid arguments to maintain harmony in their relationships. Students should not choose short-cuts in their studies.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today the moon will make you more sensitive and emotional. You should avoid investments in real estate and other assets. Take care of your parent's health. You could see some delay in your work as well, but you will do well to face it with patience. On the professional front, do not be indecisive.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you will be glad as you can maintain a balance between your earnings and expenditure, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you implement your plans. Your siblings and subordinate staff will be more helpful today. You can plan to visit your elders or a spiritual place.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today your energy levels will be high. It will make you happy and optimistic to fulfil your desires with the help of hard work. You may plan to go for outings with friends and family to share your happiness. Students will see good news in terms of their academics.

KIDZONE

Sandra Mary Saji, 10 Years, Cluny Convent High School

B M Nehan Belliappa, 7 Years, St. Joseph's Boys High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=|2+(−4)|−4−3'|+(+16)|
=|(−4)+2|−4−3'|+16|
=|(−2)|−4−3'|+16|
=|−2|−4−3'|16|
=2−4−3'16
=2−4−48
=2+(−4)+(−48)
=(−4)+2+(−48)
=(−2)+(−48)
=(−48)+(−2)
=−50.

RIDDLER
1. Quail -> All,
2. Quill -> Ill,
3. Quasy -> Easy,
4. Qualms -> Alms

FAST FIVE

S	P	A	D	E
L	A	P	I	N
U	P	E	N	D
M	A	R	G	E
P	L	Y	E	R

STRIKE OUT

H	I	S	S	■	A	D	A	M	S	A	L	E	■	■
S	K	O	A	L	A	■	L	■	M	■	U	■	■	■
I	N	C	H	■	A	B	R	I	D	G	E	D	■	■
N	■	A	T	E	■	F	■	O	■	N	■	■	■	■
A	S	T	E	R	I	S	K	■	I	D	L	E	■	■
V	E	T	■	U	■	A	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	■
L	A	T	E	R	■	S	C	R	A	G	■	■	■	■
X	■	G	■	S	C	■	N	N	E	■	■	■	■	■
T	A	S	K	■	A	R	C	A	D	I	A	N	■	■
U	D	■	L	E	■	D	E	R	■	B	A	■	■	■
P	E	N	E	L	O	P	E	■	B	A	L	M	■	■
N	■	A	U	■	A	R	A	B	S	■	S	U	■	■
I	N	S	U	L	A	T	E	■	E	T	A	H	■	■

QUICK

H	A	N	G	■	S	T	I	L	T	C	H	E	S	■
I	■	E	■	C	■	H	■	A	■	I	■	A	■	■
E	S	H	W	A	R	I	■	P	A	G	E	S	■	■
R	■	R	■	M	■	N	■	I	■	H	■	H	■	■
A	B	A	S	E	■	K	A	R	A	T	E	■	■	■
R	■	L	■	S	■	■	E	■	C	■	■	■	■	■
C	R	U	I	S	E	■	A	T	T	A	C	H	■	■
H	■	N	■	O	■	R	■	A	■	■	■	■	■	■
O	F	F	S	E	T	■	A	L	B	U	M	■	■	■
W	■	O	■	U	■	T	■	I	■	U	■	B	■	■
O	N	■	T	■	I	■	T	■	O	■	N	■	■	■
I	D	L	E	S	■	E	C	L	O	G	U	E	■	■
S	■	D	■	H	■	R	■	S	■	L	■	R	■	■
H	A	S	T	I	E	S	T	■	D	E	N	S	■	■

QUOTE UNCODE
Man cannot be uplifted, he must be seduced into virtue.

BULL'S EYE
elfish, file, film, fish, flesh, HIMSELF, life, self, shelf

MENSA PUZZLE
55: each number indicates its position in the grid. 55 indicates row 5 column 5

SUDOKU

2	6	5	7	9	4	1	3	8
9	1	3	6	8	2	4	5	7
4	8	7	3	5	1	6	9	2
7	3	9	8	4	5	2	1	6
5	4	8	1	2	6	9	7	3
1	2	6	9	7	3	5	8	4
8	7	4	5	6	9	3	2	1
6	9	1	2	3	7	8	4	5
3	5	2	4	1	8	7	6	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE
T, Ta, Art, Rate, Stare, Alerts, Carters.

GO FIGURE
Easy
9 + 9 + 9 + 1 = 28
Medium
9 − 2 − 3 + 7 = 11
Hard
8 + 2 x 1 x 2 = 20

LOOP

KAKURO

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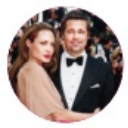
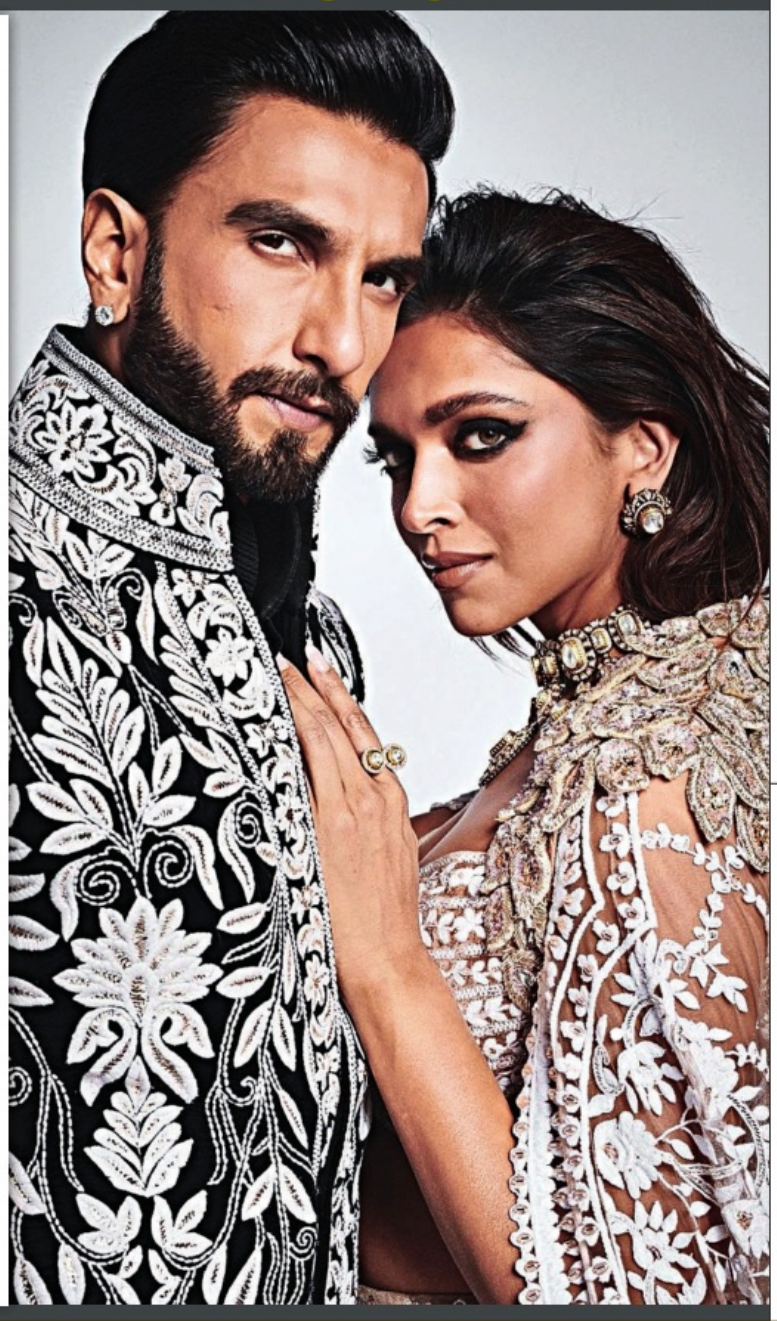


Pitt's mid-air rage

Angelina Jolie accused Brad Pitt of pushing and shaking her in a furious row on a transatlantic flight with their six children, an FBI report has revealed

GRAND HOMECOMING

Deepika, Ranveer embark on new beginning with new abode



On the special occasion of Janmashtami, Bollywood's power couple Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh decided to perform a Griha Pravesh pooja at their new house in Alibaug in Maharashtra. Ranveer took to Instagram and gave a glimpse of their new beginning.

The couple is seen sporting white clothes as they perform the pooja. Reportedly, DeepVeer were accompanied by their immediate families only for this private ceremony.

Ranveer took to his Instagram story and shared the pictures with evil-eye, house and red heart emojis. In one of the pictures, DeepVeer is seen holding each other's hands.

Their plush house in Alibaug has been done up by celebrity interior designer Vinita Chaitanya. Earlier, she shared a picture with Deepika and Ranveer while they went to Alibaug together. Reportedly, they have shelled out a whopping Rs 22 crore for their new luxurious sea-facing bungalow. DeepVeer's new residence is spread across 2.25 acres and has a built-up area of around 18,000 sq ft. It is a 5BHK ground-plus-first floor bungalow located in the Satirje area of Alibaug and Kihim Beach is only 10 minutes away from their new home.

On the work front, Ranveer will be seen in 'Cirkus' with Jacqueline Fernandez; Deepika has 'Fighter', 'Pathaan', 'Project K', and 'The Intern' remake." —ETimes

Friendship goals

Sara Ali Khan and Janhvi Kapoor have surely come a long way together with their friendship. Right from gymming and travelling to sharing the couch in Koffee With Karan, the stars have often dished out major BFF goals. Buzz is that actors recently shared the screen space together for an upcoming project.

Having said that, Janhvi took to her social media handle to share a photo with Janhvi from the sets and wrote, "From brewing koffee that was hot, now finally as ko-actors we shot. Wait and watch us- tell us what you thought."

During the pandemic, Janhvi and Sara became great friends. They had even gone for trips together. Earlier in an interview with a news portal, when Sara was asked about her equation with Janhvi, she said, "We are very different from each other and we are comfortable in our own skin. We are not best friends and we all have different set of friends. But we connected in the past two years. As young ambitious girls who are starting their career, to lose two years to Covid, that brought us close. — ANI

Vijay, Ananya pay tribute to late superstar Puneeth Rajkumar

Telugu superstar Vijaya Devarakonda and Bollywwod actress Ananya Panday, who are currently in Bengaluru to promote their upcoming film 'Liger', paid tribute to late Kannada superstar Puneeth Rajkumar on Friday.

Vijay and Ananya visited the Samadhi of Puneeth Rajkumar located within the premises of Kanteerava stadium and paid a floral tribute to the late actor.

The pictures of Vijaya and Ananya paying their respects to the late star have now gone viral on social media.

Later on Friday, the actors will promote their film at a mall in Bengaluru. — IANS

LOVE 360

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Shashank
- **ACTORS** Praveen, Rachana Inder, Kavya, Gopala Krishna Deshpande, Danny Kuttappa, Sukanya Girish
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 135 minutes

Protective, perennial love

Love 360 is the second movie directed by Shashank with newcomers playing the lead pair. The first one was Moggina Manasu that released in 2008, in which newcomers played prominent roles. Love 360 has all elements of import – love, drugs, and crime.

The film begins with Ram (Praveen) getting a phone call from Janaki alias Jaanu (Rachana Inder) after stabbing a person to death with a screwdriver at a Karwar beach. We can hear Ram assuring Jaanu that he is on the way to take her home. At this juncture, the director introduces a flashback and narrates under what circumstances Ram and Jaanu became friends at an orphanage during their childhood and how Ram rescues Jaanu, who suffers from amnesic syndrome, from vicious people and how she landed up behind the bars. Now Ram has two tasks: one is to prove Jaanu innocent and protect her from lecherous people. Will he or won't he achieve these tasks is what the film is all about.

As far as the actors' performance goes, Praveen is at his best. Though this is his Sandalwood debut, he looks like a mature artiste. His performance is good in emotional and stunt sequences. If he pursues acting, nothing can stop him from getting a strong foothold in Sandalwood. This movie has provided him the much-needed platform.

Rachana walks away with all honours too with her sterling performance. She not only looks gorgeous but also is convincing as a girl suffering from amnesic syndrome. Her performance will make you empathise with her character. Her innocent face may haunt audiences for a while after they have watched the film.

The other character the audiences may hate is a corrupt police inspector, played by Gopala Krishna Deshpande. Danny Kuttappa, a notorious lorry driver who goes to any extent to satiate his lust, is also convincing.

Music director Arjun Janya has done a wonderful job. Among the songs, Jagave Neenu Gelathiye, takes the cake.

There are some jarring aspects -- one is the introduction of a drug peddler character. The other is a scene at a garbage yard where Ram is hunting for a button to prove the innocence of the leading lady. But all in all, Shashank deserves praise for introducing Praveen, the son of a philanthropic doctor from Hospet. All those who love movies full of romance and action, go for it. —Y Maheswara Reddy